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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/717,060	11/22/2000	Hajime Nishihara	0216-0445P	2421

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EXAMINER

BUTTNER, DAVID J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1712

DATE MAILED: 04/24/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/717,060

Applicant(s)

NISHIHARA, HAJIME

Examiner

David Buttner

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 13 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Serizawa Patent.

Serizawa exemplifies (C7) a blend of PC with 4 pph of an aromatic polysiloxane. The MW of the polysiloxane is 40,000 and therefore would be expected to have the viscosity of claim 4.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Brown Patent.

The reference adds phenyl containing polysiloxane to PC. The amount of aromaticity can vary depending on the value of X and Y.

Regarding claim 3, use of any two polysiloxanes within the scope of the reference would be prima facie obvious (see MPEP 2144.06 "combining equivalents").

Inherently, flame retardance must be imparted to the PC.

Claims 1-4 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Sakano Patent.

Sakano exemplifies (#2, 4) blends of PC, polymethyl phenylsiloxane and optionally ABS. The MW of the siloxane is 25,000 which is believed to correspond to a viscosity above 100 cst. Sakano gives a general range 10-100,000 cst (col. 3, line 1). Inherently, the siloxane must impart flame retardance.

Claims 1-5 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the JO 9087504 Patent.

The reference exemplifies (#1-3) blends of PC, polycaprolactone and SH710. SH710 is a polymethylphenylsiloxane having a viscosity of 500 cst and 40% phenyl

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substituents (see Gokan col. 5, lines 36-38). Inherently SH710 must impart flame retardance.

Regarding claim 3, the use of any two polysiloxanes within the scope of the reference would be prima facie obvious (see MPEP 2144.06 "combining equivalents").

Claims 1-5, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the J0 7196871 Patent.

The reference exemplifies (#1) a blend of polycarbonate, ABS, SAN, phosphate flame retardant, PTFE and TSF-437. TSF-437 is poly(methyl phenyl siloxane). Uemura (col. 11, line 60) can be cited to confirm the identity of TSF-437.

Applicant's arguments filed 2/14/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues Brown, Sakano, Serizawa and J0 9087504 do not teach flame retardance as a benefit of their polysiloxanes.

Simply because a reference is silent as to an inherent characteristic is no reason for allowance. The references use the same materials (i.e., PC + linear aromatic polysiloxane) in the same amounts as applicant. This is the rationale tending to show inherency required by MPEP 2112.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Buttner whose telephone number is 703-308-2403. The examiner can normally be reached on Weekdays from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Dawson can be reached on 703-308-2340. The fax phone numbers

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for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

DAVID J. BUTTNER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

D. Buttner/mn
April 23, 2003

David Buttner